

**From:** [Jon Rauscher](#)  
**To:** [David Gray](#)  
**Cc:** [R6 DWH REOC PSC@EPA](#); [R6 DWH REOC ESC@EPA](#); [Paige Delgado](#); [Matthew Loesel](#); [Marc Greenberg](#); [Sam Coleman](#); [Susan Webster](#); [Donald Williams](#); [Dave Williams](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: CNN question  
**Date:** 06/16/2010 05:29 PM

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The 39 mg/kg would be below a screening level that would be developed for this response.

The weathered oil sample was collected at Pass a l'Ooutre on May 30, 2010 and arsenic was detected at 39 mg/kg.

The EPA industrial screening for arsenic is 1.6 mg/kg. The basis of the screening level is a lifetime excess cancer risk of 1 in 1 million, an exposure duration of 25 years and an exposure frequency of 250 days per year.

If the screening level was adjusted for this response (90 days over a 1 year duration), the 1E-6 screening level would be 160 mg/kg.

▼ [David Gray](#)---06/16/2010 03:57:48 PM---He got the PDF from the EPA web site. ----- Forwarded by [David Gray/R6/USEPA/US](#) on 06/16/2010 03:57

**From:** David Gray/R6/USEPA/US  
**To:** Jon Rauscher/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Jones.Nancy@epamail.epa.gov  
**Date:** 06/16/2010 03:57 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: CNN question

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He got the PDF from the EPA web site.

----- Forwarded by [David Gray/R6/USEPA/US](#) on 06/16/2010 03:57 PM -----

**Re: CNN question**

**David** to: David Gray  
**Martin**

06/16/2010  
03:12 PM

Hi David,

I've got the PDF with the data for "weathered oil." I wanted to know if someone could take me step by step through the chart. Give me a definition for "weathered oil," "HEM grease," "reporting limits." Also whether any of the substances exceeds the definition of what EPA considers safe for chronic exposure (since we are approaching the 60 day mark). For example, I saw arsenic detected at 39 mg/kg, which — if my information is correct — is 10 times the acceptable industrial standard.

Thanks

On 6/16/10 3:32 PM, "Gray.David@epamail.epa.gov" <Gray.David@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

Hi David,

Left you a vm. How can we help? Let me know and I will find someone walk us through it.

David

**Re: CNN question**

**David Martin** to: David Gray 06/16/2010 10:33 AM

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Hi David,

Greetings! Is there anyone at EPA who could walk me through this on background?

Thanks,  
David

On 6/14/10 1:20 PM, "Gray.David@epamail.epa.gov" <Gray.David@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

Hi.

Apologize. I thought my team had gotten back with you.

Check our web site

<http://www.epa.gov/bpspill/waste.html#samples> <<http://www.epa.gov/bpspill/waste.html#samples>>

Oil sample results

I looked at the PDF and mercury was tested.

David

David Gray  
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External and Government Affairs  
US EPA  
(214) 665-2200 office  
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Sent from Blackberry

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**From:** "Martin, David S (TBS-CNN)" [David.Martin@turner.com]

**Sent:** 06/14/2010 01:03 PM AST

**To:** David Gray

**Subject:** CNN question

Hi David,

Following up on an e-mail last week about testing in Houston of the composition of the oil spilling into the Gulf. I'm particularly interested in the mercury content.

Thanks,  
David

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**David Martin** | Senior Producer | **CNN** Medical Unit | 404-918-4348 mobile | 404-827-5115 fax  
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